

Online Resources from the SD State Library That Support Science Education

The SD State Library provides online resources to all schools and libraries in South Dakota. The following handout describes how the resources can be used to find information to support science education.

Most of the resources are available from home with a library card from an SDLN member library (most of the larger public libraries in SD) or a SD State Library library card. You can request a SD State Library card by clicking on “how do I...” from the SD State Library homepage: <http://www.sdstatelibrary.com>

To login from home use the barcode from the back of the library card and your password is your last name.

SIRS Discoverer (K-9)—selected, full text articles that support national content standards. This resource has searchable pictures, activities, biographical information, reviewed websites and more. Each article has 2 reading levels assigned—Lexile and editorially assigned. Websites have an editorially assigned reading level.

- ❖ Browse Subject Tree: “science”
 - See articles on subjects including chemistry, physics, plants, weather and more.
 - Additional Browse Subject Tree areas include: animals, environment
- ❖ Database Features: Photo Essays
 - Photos and brief text
 - Subjects covered include: ecology, natural forces, natural resources, and space.
- ❖ Database Features: Biographies
 - Find biographical information about famous scientists and other notable people.
- ❖ Database Features: Activities
 - Provides articles grouped by activity
 - Options include: “science and nature projects”

SIRS Researcher (6-12)—selected, full-text articles that support national content standards. This resource has a Lexile score for every article.

- ❖ Right hand side—“Curriculum Pathfinders”
 - Provides articles, websites, research ideas and more for content areas, including “Sciences”
- ❖ Searchable images
- ❖ “Leading Issues”—full text articles with research guide, topic overview and pro/con. Topics include:
 - global warming
 - alternative energy sources

- cloning
- conservation of natural resources
- endangered species

Gale Virtual Reference Library—online reference books. These are the actual books available online. They have an unlimited number of simultaneous users. These will be useful when looking for definitions or basic information.

❖ Titles include:

- Endangered Species (SD's most used GVRL book!)
- Pollution A to Z
- U*X*L Encyclopedia of Landforms and Other Geologic Features
- U*X*L Encyclopedia of Water Science
- Alternative Energy
- Chemical Compounds
- Chemical Elements: From Carbon to Krypton
- Chemistry: Foundations and Applications
- Gale Encyclopedia of Science
- World of Forensic Science

NetLibrary—online non-fiction books. These books are limited to 1 user at a time. To “release” a book, you need to “close item” so someone else can view it.




❖ Sample titles include:

- *McGraw Hill Dictionary of Chemistry*
- *Opportunities in Chemistry Careers*
- *A Dictionary of Scientists*
- *Scientists, Mathematicians, and Inventors: Lives and Legacies: an Encyclopedia of People Who Changed the World*
- *Nobel Prize Women in Science: Their Lives, Struggles, and Momentous Discoveries*

Proquest:

Over 3000 journals—indexed and searchable. This resource provides full text articles to many journals. The publication search in Proquest was used to search for journals to support the science subject areas. If the journal is in full text, the dates will be listed beside the journal name.

A search for journals with “science” in the title resulted in 105 titles. The following titles are some examples:

- ❖ *The American Biology Teacher*; Reston  Full Text: 2000 - current
- ❖ *The Science Teacher*; Washington  Full Text: 1989 - current
- ❖ *Endangered Species Update*; Ann Arbor  Full Text: 1999 - current

Learning Express Library—instant scored practice exams. All exams can be finished later, and answer explanations provided.

❖ Sample exams include:

- AP Biology Practice Exam
- AP Chemistry Practice Exam

Handouts and tutorials are available on the SD State Library homepage under “For Librarians” “Licensed Databases”

<http://www.sdstatelibrary.com/forlibrarians/licenses/index.htm>

For more information, your school’s librarian will have information about these resources. You may also contact the Electronic Services Coordinator, Julie Erickson, at julie.erickson@state.sd.us or 605-773-3131.